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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: DISAPPEARANCE AND REAPPEARANCE LISTS ANNOUNCED

1. CAPPING A RECENT UPSURGE OF PRESS ACCOUNTS OF INDIVIDUAL DISAPPEARANCE CASES, THE FEDERAL POLICE, THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY AND A GROUP OF PARENTS FROM BAHIA BLANCA HAVE RELEASED NEW LISTS OF DISAPPEARED AND REAPPEARED PERSONS.

2. FEDERAL POLICE'S LIST---

ON AUGUST 7 FEDERAL POLICE CHIEF OJEDA RELEASED TO THE PRESS A LIST OF 201 "MISSING PERSONS" WHO HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY THE MISSING PERSONS BUREAU OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE FEDERAL POLICE.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE CHECKED THE 201 NAMES ON THE POLICE LIST AGAINST OUR FILE OF NEARLY 7,000 DISAPPEARED AND DETAINED CASES. WE WERE ABLE TO IDENTIFY WITH CERTAINTY ONLY ONE OF THE NAMES RELEASED BY THE FEDERAL POLICE AS A DISAPPEARANCE CASE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO US. FIVE OTHER CASES ARE COMMON NAMES WHICH MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN REPORTED TO THE
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EMBASSY AS DISAPPEARED PERSONS BUT WE CANNOT MAKE A POSITIVE FINDING ON THE LIMITED INFORMATION AVAILABLE. OUR EXPERIENCE BASED ON THE PREVIOUS

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/PS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
Exemption(s):
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full **DECLASSIFIED**
() Classify as () Extend as () Downgrade to
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____
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FEDERAL POLICE'S LIST OF MISSING PERSONS LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT THE POLICE LIST PREIMARILY CONTAINS INDIVIDUALS CLASSIFIED AS "MISSING PERSONS" AND NOT "DESAPARECIDOS". END COMMENT.

4. PERMANENT ASSEMBLY ANNOUNCEMENT-----

ON AUGUST 8 THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS RELEASED A STATEMENT ADDRESSED TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR INFORMING THE MINISTRY THAT 14 OF THE 87 PERSONS WHICH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR CLAIMED ON JUNE 2 HAD BEEN LOCATED WERE IN FACT STILL MISSING. THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY ALSO TRANSMITTED THE NAMES OF 500 NEW DISAPPEARANCE CASES TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WHICH HAD BEEN COLLECTED SINCE THE ASSEMBLY MEDH AND LIGA POR LOS DERECHOS DEL HOMBRE PUBLISHED 3500 NAMES IN A BUENOS AIRES PAPER ON MAY 17. THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY STATEMENT ALSO ALLEGES THAT 10 OF THE PERSONS TRACED BY THE MINISTRY IN JUNE HAD NEVER BEEN REPORTED AS MISSING.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR'S JUNE 2 CORRECTION OF THE ASSEMBLY MEDH AND LIGA LIST WAS CHECKED OUT CASE-BY-CASE BY ASSEMBLY WORKERS. THE CORRECTIONS AND REVISIONS INDICATE THAT NEITHER THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY NOR THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR'S INFORMATION IS TOTALLY RELIABLE NOR UP TO DATE AND DOES NOT INDICATE BAD FAITH ON EITHER SIDE. THE MINISTRY REPORT PROBABLY REFERS TO CASES OF
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INDIVIDUALS WHO "DISAPPEARED" AFTER HAVING BEEN RELEASED FROM OFFICIAL DETENTION. OFTEN, THIS IS THE RESULT OF A ROUTINE OPERATION IN WHICH THE SUBJECT IS RELEASED AFTER HAVING BEEN PICKED UP IN AN AUTHORIZED, OPEN OPERATION AND, AFTER BEING RELEASED, IS IMMEDIATELY PICKED UP AGAIN CLANDESTINELY. THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY'S INFORMATION REGARDING DISAPPEARED PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN RELEASED DEPENDS ON THEIR FAMILIES' FILING A FOLLOW-UP REPORT. HOWEVER, SUCH INDIVIDUALS OR THEIR FAMILIES OFTEN FAIL TO REPORT THE RELEASES TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS OR TO EMBASSIES SO THAT THIS INFORMATION IS NOT REGISTERED.

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6. BAHIA BLANCA FAMILIES' STATEMENT---

THE STATEMENT BY BAHIA BLANCA FAMILIES CITED
IN THE SUMMARY WAS A BRIEF ADVERTISEMENT CARRIED
IN THE AUGUST 3 ISSUE OF LA PRENSA, WHICH LISTED
THE NAMES AND DATES OF DISAPPEARANCE OF 29 PERSONS.
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